

Orbital Feshbach Resonance with Small Energy Gap between Open and Closed Channels

Yanting Cheng,¹ Ren Zhang,¹ and Peng Zhang^{2,3,4}

¹*Institute for Advanced Study, Tsinghua University, Beijing, 100084, China*

²*Department of Physics, Renmin University of China, Beijing, 100872, China*

³*Beijing Computational Science Research Center, Beijing, 100084, China*

⁴*Beijing Key Laboratory of Opto-electronic Functional Materials & Micro-nano Devices (Renmin University of China)*

Recently a new type of Feshbach resonance, i.e., orbital Feshbach resonance (OFR) was proposed for the ultracold alkali-earth (like) atoms, and experimentally observed in the ultracold gases of ^{173}Yb atoms. Unlike most of the magnetic Feshbach resonances of ultracold alkali atoms, when the OFR of ^{173}Yb atoms appears, the energy gap between the thresholds of the open channel (OC) and the closed channel (CC) is much smaller than the characteristic energy of the inter-atomic interaction, i.e., the van der Waals energy. In this paper we study the OFR in the systems with small CC-OC threshold gap. We show that in these systems the OFR can be induced by the coupling between the OC and either an isolated bound state of the CC or the scattering states of the CC. Moreover, we also show that in each case the two-channel Huang-Yang pseudopotential is always applicable for the approximate calculation of the low-energy scattering amplitude. Our results imply that in the theoretical calculations for these systems it is appropriate to take into account the contributions from the scattering states of the CC.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Feshbach resonance [1] exists in many kinds of ultracold gases, and can be used as a power tool for controlling the interaction between ultracold atoms [2]. For instance, in the ultracold gases of alkali atoms, when the relative motional state of two atoms in the open channel (OC) is near resonant to a bound state of the closed channel (CC) with higher threshold energy, magnetic Feshbach resonance (MFR) can be induced by the hyperfine coupling between different channels [3]. With the help of this resonance effect, one can precisely control the scattering length between these two atoms by magnetically changing the inter-channel energy difference. In almost all the current experiments of ultracold alkali atoms, when the MFR appears, the gap between the threshold energies of the OC and the CC is as high as 10^8Hz – 10^9Hz [2]. As a result of this large energy gap, the resonance is usually induced by the coupling between the OC and a single bound state (or several bound states with similar energies) of the CC. The contribution of the scattering states of the CC for the resonance can be neglected.

For ultracold alkali-earth (like) atoms, recently we proposed a new type of Feshbach resonance, i.e., orbital Feshbach resonance (OFR) [4]. This resonance can occur in the scattering between two alkali-earth (like) atoms in different electronic orbital and nuclear spin states. The OFR is a result of the spin-exchange interaction [5–7] and the Zeeman effect [8] in such system, and can be used for magnetically controlling the interaction between alkali-earth (like) atoms. The OFR has been experimentally observed in ultracold ^{173}Yb atoms which are in the $^1\text{S}_0$ and $^3\text{P}_0$ electronic orbital states with different quantum numbers of nuclear spins [9, 10]. In these experiments, when the OFR occurs, the energy gap between

the thresholds of the CC and the OC is about $2 \times 10^5\text{Hz}$ [9, 10]. This energy gap is not only much smaller than the CC-OC threshold gap of the MFR of ultracold alkali atoms, but also much smaller than the characteristic energy (i.e., the van der Waals energy) of the interaction potential between these ^{173}Yb atoms, which is about $1.8 \times 10^7\text{Hz}$ [7].

This paper is to address the effect of this small energy gap in OFR. Our results can be summarized as follows:

- (i) For the systems with small CC-OC threshold gap, the effects contributed by the scattering states of the CC may be very important. As a result, the OFR can be induced by the coupling of either of the following two types:
 - (A) the coupling between the OC and an isolated bound state of the CC.
 - (B) the coupling between the OC and the scattering states of the CC [12, 13].
- (ii) In each of the above cases, the two-channel Huang-Yang pseudopotential [4, 11] (i.e., the pseudopotential used in our previous work [4]) is always applicable for the approximate calculation of the low-energy scattering amplitude.

Our results imply that in the few-body or many-body calculations for the systems with small CC-OC threshold gap, it is appropriate to take into account the contributions from the scattering states of the CC.

This paper is organized as follows. In Sec. II, we derive the Hamiltonian for alkali-earth (like) atoms with different orbital and spin, and introduce the OFR. In Sec. III we illustrate result (i) with a square-well model by analyzing three different cases. In Sec. IV we investigate the applicability of the two-channel Huang-Yang

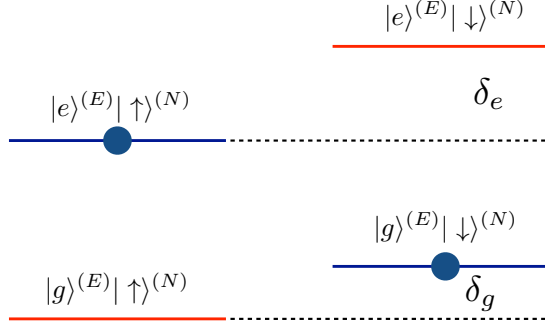


FIG. 1: (color online) Energy level diagram of a single atom. Here δ_e is the Zeeman-energy difference between the states $|e\rangle^{(E)}|\downarrow\rangle^{(N)}$ and $|e\rangle^{(E)}|\uparrow\rangle^{(N)}$, and δ_g is the one between states $|g\rangle^{(E)}|\downarrow\rangle^{(N)}$ and $|g\rangle^{(E)}|\uparrow\rangle^{(N)}$. The Zeeman energy difference δ in Eq. (3) can be expressed as $\delta = \delta_e - \delta_g$. In our system with $\delta > 0$, the open channel is the state $|o\rangle$ with one atom in $|e\rangle^{(E)}|\uparrow\rangle^{(N)}$ and one atom in $|g\rangle^{(E)}|\downarrow\rangle^{(N)}$.

pseudopotential and derive the result (ii). Some discussions are given in Sec. V. In the appendix we provide a brief explanation for the principle of the Feshbach resonance induced by the coupling between the OC and the scattering states of the CC [12, 13].

II. OFR OF ALKALI-EARTH (LIKE) ATOMS

We consider the scattering of two fermionic alkali-earth (like) atoms in the 1S_0 and 3P_0 electronic orbital states with different quantum numbers of nuclear spin. We denote the electronic states 1S_0 and 3P_0 for the i th atom ($i = 1, 2$) as $|g\rangle_i^{(E)}$ and $|e\rangle_i^{(E)}$, respectively, and denote the nuclear spin states for the i -th atom as $|\uparrow\rangle_i^{(N)}$ and $|\downarrow\rangle_i^{(N)}$ (Fig. 1). Here the superscript E and N denote the electronic orbital and nuclear spin degree of freedom, respectively. We further define $|o\rangle$ as the state where one atom is in $|g\rangle^{(E)}|\downarrow\rangle^{(N)}$ and the other one is in $|e\rangle^{(E)}|\uparrow\rangle^{(N)}$, and $|c\rangle$ as the state with one atom being in $|g\rangle^{(E)}|\uparrow\rangle^{(N)}$ and the other one being in $|e\rangle^{(E)}|\downarrow\rangle^{(N)}$, i.e.,

$$|o\rangle \equiv |g, \downarrow; e, \uparrow\rangle \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[|g\rangle_1^{(E)}|\downarrow\rangle_1^{(N)}|e\rangle_2^{(E)}|\uparrow\rangle_2^{(N)} - |e\rangle_1^{(E)}|\uparrow\rangle_1^{(N)}|g\rangle_2^{(E)}|\downarrow\rangle_2^{(N)} \right], \quad (1)$$

$$|c\rangle \equiv |g, \uparrow; e, \downarrow\rangle \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[|g\rangle_1^{(E)}|\uparrow\rangle_1^{(N)}|e\rangle_2^{(E)}|\downarrow\rangle_2^{(N)} - |e\rangle_1^{(E)}|\downarrow\rangle_1^{(N)}|g\rangle_2^{(E)}|\uparrow\rangle_2^{(N)} \right]. \quad (2)$$

The Hamiltonian of such system can be written as ($\hbar = m = 1$, with m being the single-atom mass)

$$\hat{H} = -\nabla_{\mathbf{r}}^2 + \delta|c\rangle\langle c| + \hat{U} \equiv \hat{H}_0 + \hat{U}, \quad (3)$$

where \hat{H}_0 and \hat{U} are the free Hamiltonian for the two-atom relative motion and the inter-atomic interaction, respectively. Here \mathbf{r} is the relative position of these two atoms, and δ is the Zeeman energy difference of the states $|c\rangle$ and $|o\rangle$. It can be expressed as $\delta = (\Delta g)\mu_B B(m_\downarrow - m_\uparrow)$, with B being the magnetic field, μ_B being the Bohr's magneton, Δg being the difference of the Landé g-factors corresponding to states $|e\rangle^{(E)}$ and $|g\rangle^{(E)}$, and m_\uparrow (m_\downarrow) being the quantum number of nuclear spin for states $|\uparrow\rangle^{(N)}$ ($|\downarrow\rangle^{(N)}$). Without loss of generality, we assume $\Delta g > 0$ and thus $\delta > 0$. In such system the inter-atomic interaction \hat{U} can be expressed as [5–7]

$$\hat{U} = U^{(+)}(r)|+\rangle\langle +| + U^{(-)}(r)|-\rangle\langle -|, \quad (4)$$

where the states $|+\rangle$ and $|-\rangle$ are defined as

$$\begin{aligned} |\pm\rangle &\equiv \frac{1}{2} \left[|g\rangle_1^{(E)}|e\rangle_2^{(E)} \pm |e\rangle_1^{(E)}|g\rangle_2^{(E)} \right] \\ &\otimes \left[|\uparrow\rangle_1^{(N)}|\downarrow\rangle_2^{(N)} \mp |\downarrow\rangle_1^{(N)}|\uparrow\rangle_2^{(N)} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|c\rangle \mp |o\rangle), \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

respectively, and $U^{(\pm)}(r)$ is the potential curve with respect to state $|\pm\rangle$.

It is clear that the free Hamiltonian \hat{H}_0 , which governs the physics in the long-distance region where the two atoms are far away from each other, is diagonal in the basis $|o\rangle$ and $|c\rangle$. On the other hand, the interaction potential \hat{U} , which is very important when the inter-atom distance is short, is diagonal in another bases $|+\rangle$ and $|-\rangle$. In the conventional treatment [2], we always take the same bases in the short-distance region as in the long-distance region, so that the kinetic energy takes the same form in each region. Therefore, we define the OC and CC as the scattering channels corresponding to $|o\rangle$ and $|c\rangle$, respectively. In this bases, the interaction potential is non-diagonal, and can be re-expressed as

$$\hat{U} = \sum_{i,j=o,c} U_{ij}(r)|i\rangle\langle j|, \quad (6)$$

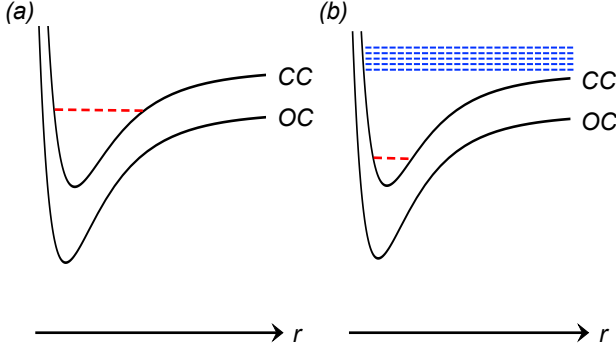


FIG. 2: (color online) Schematic diagram for the Feshbach resonances. Here r is the inter-atomic distance and the black solid lines are the potential curves of the OC and the CC. (a) The Feshbach resonance induced by the coupling between the OC and an isolated bound state (red dashed line) of the CC. (b) The Feshbach resonance induced by the coupling between the OC and the scattering states (blue dashed dotted lines) of the CC. In this case all the bound states (red dashed lines) of the CC are far-off resonant to the threshold of the OC.

where

$$U_{oo}(r) = U_{cc}(r) = \frac{1}{2} [U^{(+)}(r) + U^{(-)}(r)] \quad (7)$$

and

$$U_{oc}(r) = U_{co}(r) = \frac{1}{2} [U^{(-)}(r) - U^{(+)}(r)] \quad (8)$$

Here $U_{oo}(r)$ and $U_{cc}(r)$ can be viewed as the intra-channel potential for the OC and the CC, respectively, while $U_{oc}(r)$ and $U_{co}(r)$ can be viewed as the inter-channel coupling between the OC and the CC.

We study the scattering length a_s between two atoms in the OC $|o\rangle$. This scattering length is defined via the relation

$$|\Psi(r \rightarrow \infty)\rangle \propto \left(\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{a_s}\right) |c\rangle. \quad (9)$$

Here $|\Psi(\mathbf{r})\rangle$ is the scattering wave function of the threshold scattering of two atoms in the OC, i.e., the wave function which satisfies $H|\Psi(\mathbf{r})\rangle = 0$. Due to the coupling $U_{oc}(r)$ between the OC and the CC, a_s is a function of gap δ between the thresholds of these two channels. In some systems, a_s diverges when this threshold gap is tuned to some particular value. That is the OFR.

In this paper we consider the systems where the CC-OC threshold gap δ is much smaller than the characteristic energy E_* of the interaction potential, i.e., the systems with

$$\delta \ll E_*. \quad (10)$$

Here the characteristic energy E_* are defined as

$$E_* = \frac{1}{r_*^2}, \quad (11)$$

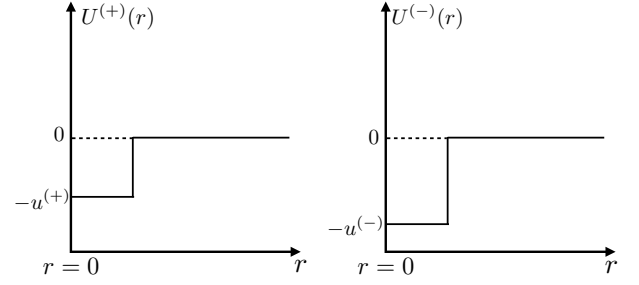


FIG. 3: (color online) The square-well model for the potentials $U^{(+)}(r)$ and $U^{(-)}(r)$.

where r_* is the characteristic length of the interaction potential $U^{(\pm)}(r)$ and satisfies $U^{(\pm)}(r \gtrsim r_*) \approx 0$. For a realistic ultracold gas of alkali-earth (like) atoms, r_* can be chosen as the van der Waals radius R_{vdW} which is related to the asymptotic behavior of interaction by

$$U^{(\pm)}(r \rightarrow \infty) = -\frac{(2R_{\text{vdW}})^4}{r^6}. \quad (12)$$

III. OFR INDUCED BY THE COUPLINGS OF TYPES (A) AND (B)

In this section, using a simple square-well model [15–17] we illustrate that the OFR in the systems under the condition (10) can be induced by the coupling between the OC and either the scattering states of the CC (Fig. 2a) [12, 13] or an isolated bound state of the CC (Fig. 2b), i.e., the couplings of either type (A) or type (B) we introduced in Sec. I.

In our model $U^{(+)}(r)$ and $U^{(-)}(r)$ in Eq. (4) are square-well potentials which satisfy (Fig. 3)

$$U^{(\pm)}(r) = \begin{cases} -u^{(\pm)}, & r < b \\ 0, & r > b \end{cases}. \quad (13)$$

where b is the range of the square-well potential. For simplicity, here we only consider the potentials $U^{(\pm)}(r)$ with at most two bound states. In this model we have $r_* = b$ and thus $E_* = b^{-2}$.

In this section we calculate the scattering length a_s between two atoms in the OC with both the exact numerical calculation for the above square-well potential and the single-pole approximation. In the single-pole approximation only the contribution from a single bound state of the CC, which is nearest resonant to the threshold of the OC, is taken into account. The contributions from all the other bound states as well as the scattering states of the CC are neglected in this approximation. Under this approximation, the scattering length a_s is given by [3]

$$a_s = a_{\text{bg}} + \frac{2\pi^2 |w|^2}{|\epsilon_b| - \delta - \epsilon_0}, \quad (14)$$

with

$$\epsilon_0 = \int d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}' \phi_b(\mathbf{r})^* U_{co}(r) G_{\text{bg}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') U_{oc}(r') \phi_b(\mathbf{r}') \quad (15)$$

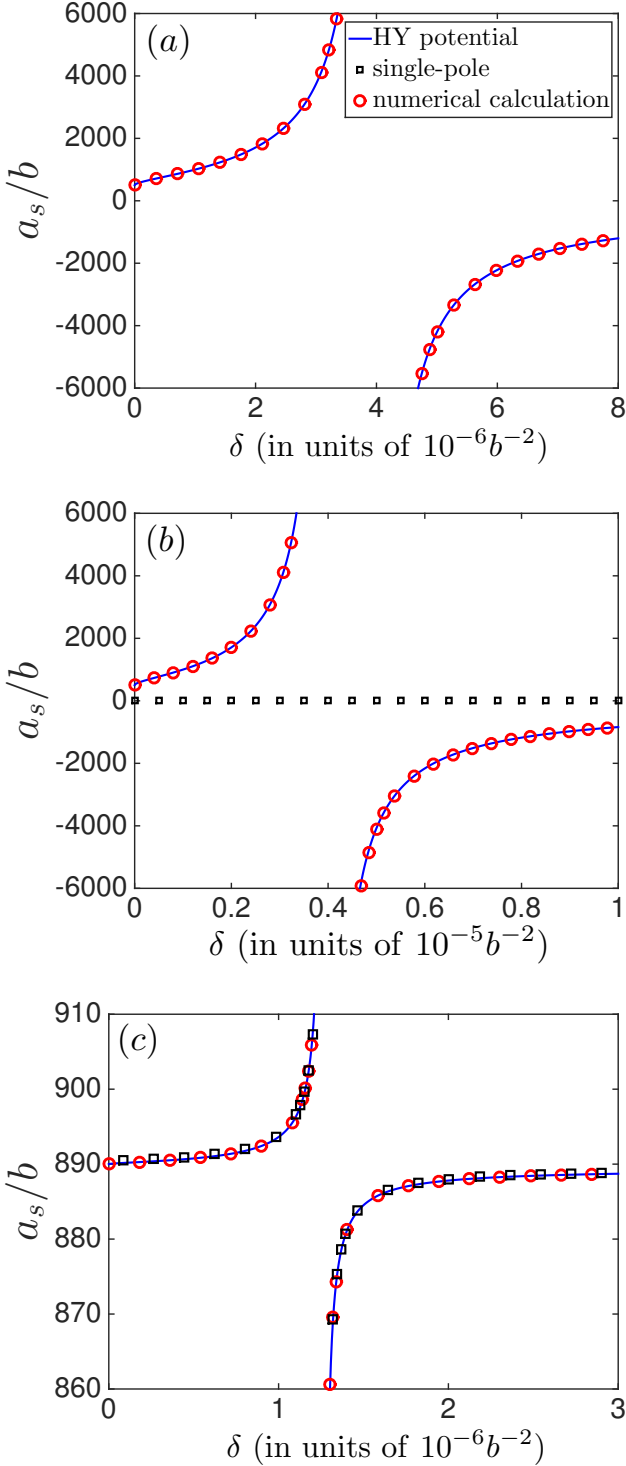


FIG. 4: (color online) The scattering length a_s of the square-well model. We show the results given by exact numerical calculation (red circle) and the two-channel Huang-Yang pseudopotential (blue solid line). In (a) and (c) we also show the single-pole approximation (black square). Here we consider the cases with (a): $a^{(+)} = 1000b$ ($u^{(+)} \approx 2.47b^{-2}$) and $a^{(-)} = 0.5b$ ($u^{(-)} \approx -3.67b^{-2}$); (b): $a^{(+)} = 0.15b$ ($u^{(+)} \approx 19.8b^{-2}$) and $a^{(-)} = 1000b$ ($u^{(-)} \approx 22.2b^{-2}$); (c): $a^{(+)} = 870b$ ($u^{(+)} \approx 2.4697b^{-2}$) and $a^{(-)} = 900b$ ($u^{(-)} \approx 2.46963b^{-2}$).

and

$$w = \int d\mathbf{r} \phi_b(\mathbf{r})^* U_{co}(r) \psi_{bg}(\mathbf{r}). \quad (16)$$

Here $\phi_b(\mathbf{r})$ and $|\epsilon_b|$ are the wave function and the binding energy of the isolated bound state of the CC, respectively, and a_{bg} and $\psi_{bg}(\mathbf{r})$ are the scattering length and the threshold scattering wave function of the OC in the case without inter-channel coupling, respectively, and

$$G_{bg}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = \frac{1}{-[\nabla_{\mathbf{r}}^2 + U_{oo}(r)]} \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') \quad (17)$$

is the Green's function for the OC in that case. It is clear that when the result from this single-pole approximation is close to the exact result, we can claim that the OFR is mainly due to the coupling between the OC and the isolated bound state ϕ_b .

In Fig. 4(a-c) we illustrate our results for three typical cases.

Case (a): *There is no bound state in CC, and thus the OFR is induced by the scattering states of CC.* In Fig. 4(a) we consider the system with $a^{(+)} = 1000b$ ($u^{(+)} \approx 2.47b^{-2}$) and $a^{(-)} = 0.5b$ ($u^{(-)} \approx -3.67b^{-2}$). Notice that here $U^{(-)}(r)$ is a repulsive square-well potential. According to the exact numerical calculation, the OFR can occur when $\delta \approx 4 \times 10^{-6}b^{-2}$. Nevertheless, in this system the potentials $U_{cc}(r) = U_{oo}(r) = [U^{(+)}(r) + U^{(-)}(r)]/2$ for the OC and the CC are pure repulsive potentials. Thus, there is no bound state in the CC. Therefore, this OFR is completely induced by the coupling between the OC and the scattering states of the CC. The two-body physics of Feshbach resonance induced by this kind of coupling has been studied by Y. Avishai *et al.*, [12, 13], and can be understood as a kind of shape resonance of the effective interaction in the OC. J. M. Acton *et al.* also discussed this kind of Feshbach resonance in the study of many-body problem of Fermion-mediated BCS-BEC crossover [18]. In Appendix A we provide a brief explanation for this kind of Feshbach resonance.

Case (b): *There are bound states of the CC, while the OFR is induced by the scattering states of the CC.* In Fig. 4(b) we consider the system with $a^{(+)} = 0.15b$ ($u^{(+)} \approx 19.8b^{-2}$) and $a^{(-)} = 1000b$ ($u^{(-)} \approx 22.2b^{-2}$). According to the exact numerical calculation, the OFR of this system occurs when $\delta \approx 0.4 \times 10^{-5}b^{-2}$, and the width of this OFR is of the order of $10^{-5}b^{-2}$. Moreover, in this system the binding energy $|\epsilon_b|$ of the shallowest bound state of the CC is as large as $14.5b^{-2}$. Therefore, when the OFR occurs, this bound state is far off resonant to the OC. Thus, the OFR in this system is mainly due to the coupling between the OC and the scattering states of the CC. This conclusion is further confirmed by our calculation with the single-pole approximation, which shows that the scattering length a_s given by this approximation is significantly different from the exact result, and does not have any resonance behavior.

Case (c): *The OFR is induced by the coupling between the OC and an isolated bound state of the CC.* In Fig. 4(c) we consider the system with $a^{(+)} = 870b$ ($u^{(+)} \approx 2.47b^{-2}$) and $a^{(-)} = 900b$ ($u^{(-)} \approx 2.46963b^{-2}$). It is clear that for this system the results given by the single-pole approximation and the exact numerical calculation are quantitatively consistent with each other in the region around the OFR point. Thus, the OFR in this system is mainly due to the coupling between the OC and the isolated bound state of the CC.

Our results for the above cases show that the OFR with small CC-OC threshold gap can be induced by the coupling of either type (A) or type (B) defined in Sec. I. Here we point out that cases in Fig. 4(a) and Fig. 4(b) are essentially the same category, i.e., in the region of the actual OFR there is no bound state of the CC, and the OFR is induced by the coupling of type (B), i.e., the coupling between the OC and the scattering states of the CC.

We further emphasize that, as shown in Fig. 4 (a-c), in the simple square-well model the OFR is usually induced by the coupling of type (A) or type (B) when the scattering lengths $a^{(+)}$ and $a^{(-)}$ are very close or significantly different from each other, respectively. Nevertheless, in the ultracold gases of alkali-earth (like) atoms, e. g., the ultracold gases of ^{173}Yb atoms, the realistic interatomic interaction potential curve is much more complicated than the square-well model. For these ultracold gases, to know the OFR is induced by which type of coupling, one requires not only the values of $a^{(\pm)}$ but also the short-range details of the potential curves $U^{(\pm)}(r)$.

IV. TWO-CHANNEL HUANG-YANG PSEUDOPOTENTIAL

In the above section we illustrate that the OFR of the systems under the condition (10) can be induced by the coupling of two different types. In this section we show that in each of these two cases, the two-channel Huang-Yang pseudopotential [4, 11] is always applicable for the approximate calculation of the low-energy scattering amplitude.

To this end, we consider the two-atom scattering wave function $|\psi(\mathbf{r})\rangle$ of our system, which can be expanded as

$$|\psi(\mathbf{r})\rangle = \psi_+(\mathbf{r})|+\rangle + \psi_-(\mathbf{r})|-\rangle. \quad (18)$$

This wave function satisfies the Schrödinger equation

$$\hat{H}|\psi(\mathbf{r})\rangle = E|\psi(\mathbf{r})\rangle \quad (19)$$

with E the scattering energy, as well as the out-going boundary condition. As in the above discussions, we consider the systems under the condition (10). We further focus on the low-energy scattering processes where the scattering energy is much smaller than the characteristic energy E_* of the interaction potential, i.e.,

$$E \ll E_*. \quad (20)$$

It is clear that the conditions (10) and (20) imply $1/\sqrt{E} \gg r_*$ and $1/\sqrt{\delta} \gg r_*$, where r_* is the characteristic length of the interaction potential $U^{(\pm)}(r)$, as defined in Sec. II.

When $\delta = 0$, the low-energy scattering wave function $|\psi(\mathbf{r})\rangle$ has the short-range behavior

$$\psi_{\pm}(\mathbf{r}) \propto \left(\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{a_s^{(\pm)}} \right), \quad r_* \lesssim r \ll \frac{1}{\sqrt{E}}, \quad (21)$$

where $a_s^{(\pm)}$ is the s -wave scattering length with respect to the potential $U^{(\pm)}(r)$.

Furthermore, when δ is finite, the behavior of the wave function in the region $r \ll 1/\sqrt{\delta}$ is almost not changed. Therefore, under the conditions (10) and (20) we have

$$\psi_{\pm}(\mathbf{r}) \propto \left(\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{a_s^{(\pm)}} \right), \quad r_* \lesssim r \ll \text{Min} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{E}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{\delta}} \right). \quad (22)$$

Due to this fact, in our calculation we can approximately replace the real interaction potential $U^{(\pm)}(r)$ with the Bethe-Periels boundary condition [14]

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \psi_{\pm}(\mathbf{r}) \propto \left(\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{a_s^{(\pm)}} \right), \quad (23)$$

or the two-channel Huang-Yang pseudopotential [4, 11]

$$\hat{U}_{\text{HY}} = 4\pi \left[a_s^{(+)}|+\rangle\langle+| + a_s^{(-)}|-\rangle\langle-| \right] \delta(\mathbf{r}) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial r} r \right), \quad (24)$$

which is mathematically equivalent to the boundary condition (23). Thus, we know that for our system two-channel Huang \hat{U}_{HY} can always be used for the approximate calculation for the low-energy two-body problems, no matter the OFR is induced by the coupling of type (A) or (B).

To illustrate this result, we calculate the scattering length of two atoms incident from the OC with the two-channel Huang-Yang pseudopotential \hat{U}_{HY} . To this end we consider the threshold scattering with $E = 0$. In this case the scattering wave function given by \hat{U}_{HY} can be expressed as

$$|\psi(\mathbf{r})\rangle = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \left[\left(1 - \frac{a_s^{(\text{HY})}}{r} \right) |o\rangle + B \frac{e^{-\sqrt{\delta}r}}{r} |c\rangle \right], \quad (25)$$

where the scattering length $a_s^{(\text{HY})}$ is the scattering length given by \hat{U}_{HY} . The values of $a_s^{(\text{HY})}$ and the factor B can be obtained via the Schrödinger equation

$$\left(\hat{H}_0 + \hat{U}_{\text{HY}} \right) |\psi(\mathbf{r})\rangle = 0. \quad (26)$$

With straightforward calculation, we can obtain

$$a_s^{(\text{HY})} = \frac{-a_{s0} + \sqrt{\delta}(a_{s0}^2 - a_{s1}^2)}{a_{s0}\sqrt{\delta} - 1}, \quad (27)$$

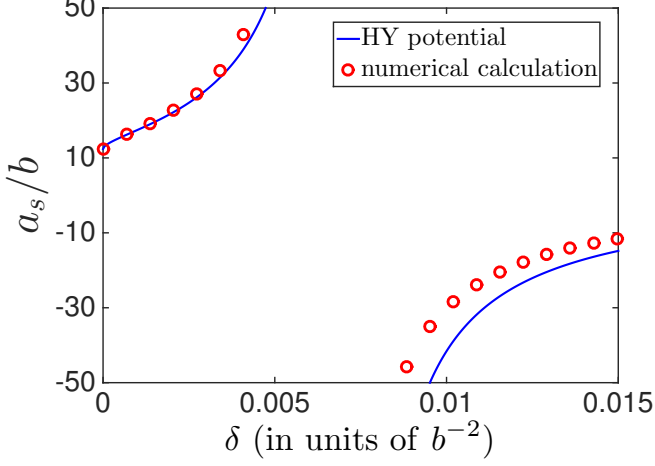


FIG. 5: (color online) The scattering length a_s of square-well model. We show the results given by exact numerical calculation (red circle) and the two-channel Huang-Yang pseudopotential (blue solid line). Here we consider the cases with $a^{(+)} = 22.4b$ ($u^{(+)} \approx 2.56b^{-2}$) and $a^{(-)} = 2.34b$ ($u^{(-)} \approx 3.76b^{-2}$).

where a_{s0} and a_{s1} are defined as

$$a_{s0} = \frac{1}{2} [a_s^{(+)} + a_s^{(-)}], \quad a_{s1} = \frac{1}{2} [a_s^{(-)} - a_s^{(+)}]. \quad (28)$$

In Fig. 4(a-c) we compare $a_s^{(\text{HY})}$ with the scattering length given by the exact numerical calculation. Notice that according to the exact numerical calculation, for these cases when the OFR occurs the low-energy condition (10) is satisfied very well ($\delta \sim 10^{-6}b^{-2} - 10^{-5}b^{-2}$). As shown in Fig. 4(a-c), in all of these cases $a_s^{(\text{HY})}$ is very close to the result from the exact numerical calculation, no matter if the OFR is induced by the coupling between the bound or scattering states of the CC.

We also do a calculation for the ^{173}Yb atoms with our square well model and the two-channel Huang-Yang pseudo potential. In our calculation we take $b = R_{\text{vdW}} = 84.84a_0$ [7], $a^{(+)} = 1900a_0 \approx 22.4b$ ($u^{(+)} \approx 2.56b^{-2}$) and $a^{(-)} = 200a_0 \approx 2.34b$ ($u^{(-)} \approx 3.76b^{-2}$) [9, 10]. We illustrate our results in Fig. 5. It is shown that although we can still approximately derive the scattering length a_s with the Huang-Yang pseudopotential \hat{U}_{HY} , there is a relative error of 10% in this approximation. This fact can be understood with the following analysis. For ^{173}Yb atoms, the OFR occurs when $\delta \sim 10^{-2}b^{-2}$. Thus, in this system the low-energy condition (10) is not satisfied as perfectly as in the examples of Fig. 4(a-c). As a result, the relative error of the pseudopotential approximation is larger. Our result implies that to obtain more accurate theoretical result for ^{173}Yb atoms, one needs to include more details of the interaction $U^{(\pm)}(r)$ in our calculation.

V. DISCUSSION

In this paper we show that the OFR in the systems where the CC-OC threshold gap δ is much smaller than the characteristic energy E_* can be induced by the coupling between the OC and either an isolated bound state or the scattering states of the CC. In any case, the two-channel Huang-Yang pseudopotential \hat{U}_{HY} can always be used as a good approximation for the inter-atomic interaction potential in the region $\delta \ll E_*$. We illustrate these conclusions with a simple square-well model.

According to Eq. (27), the scattering length $a_s^{(\text{HY})}$ given by the Huang-Yang pseudo potential diverges when

$$\delta = \frac{1}{a_{s0}^2}, \quad (29)$$

with a_{s0} defined in Eq. (28). Therefore, the OFR can occur in the systems with $\delta \ll E_*$ only when $1/a_{s0}^2 \ll E_*$, i.e., a_{s0} should be much larger than the characteristic length r_* of the interaction potential. According to Eq. (11) and Eq. (28), this condition yields that either of the two scattering lengths $a_s^{(+)}$ and $a_s^{(-)}$ for the channels $|+\rangle$ and $|-\rangle$ should be positive and much larger than r_* . Therefore, when an OFR occurs under the condition $\delta \ll E_*$, there must be a shallow bound state in the channel $|+\rangle$ or $|-\rangle$, although there may be no shallow bound state in the CC $|c\rangle$.

Here we also would like to make a comment for the scattering length of the CC itself. Naively, by projecting the two-channel Huang-Yang pseudopotential \hat{U}_{HY} on the CC, one can obtain

$$\langle c | \hat{U}_{\text{HY}} | c \rangle = 4\pi a_{s0} \delta(\mathbf{r}) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial r} r \cdot \right). \quad (30)$$

Thus, it seems that the scattering length of the CC is just $a_{s0} = (a_s^{(+)} + a_s^{(-)})/2$. However, this conclusion is incorrect. The real interaction potential of the CC is

$$\langle c | U | c \rangle = U_{cc}(r) = \frac{1}{2} [U^{(+)}(r) + U^{(-)}(r)]. \quad (31)$$

It is clear that the scattering length of this real potential, which can be denoted as a_{sc} , is determined by not only the scattering length $a_s^{(\pm)}$ of the potential curves $U^{(\pm)}(r)$, but also the short-range details $U^{(\pm)}(r)$. The value of a_{sc} is possible to be either significantly different from a_{s0} or close to a_{s0} . Accordingly, although the complete two-channel Huang-Yang pseudopotential \hat{U}_{HY} is always applicable in a two-channel problem under the conditions (10) and (20), it does not mean that we can directly use the projection $\langle c | \hat{U}_{\text{HY}} | c \rangle$ to study the single-channel physics for the CC itself.

As shown above, the OFR can occur in the region $\delta \ll E_*$ in a system with $a_{s0} > 0$ and $1/a_{s0}^2 \ll E_*$. In such a system, if the value of the scattering length a_{sc} of the CC is close to the value of a_{s0} , then there exists a shallow bound state in the CC with binding energy close to $1/a_{s0}^2$.

When the OFR occurs, i.e. $\delta \approx 1/a_{s0}^2$, this bound state is near resonant to the threshold of the OC, and thus has a significant contribution to the OFR. On the other hand, if the value of a_{sc} is negative or much smaller than a_{s0} , then when the OFR occurs all the bound states of the CC are far off resonant to the threshold of the OC. In that system the OFR may be mainly induced by the coupling between the OC and the scattering states of the CC.

It is also pointed out that, in principle the Feshbach resonance induced by the coupling between the OC and the scattering states of the CC can also occur in the systems where the CC-OC threshold gap is comparable or larger than the characteristic energy [12, 13]. However, in these systems that kind of Feshbach resonance usually requires extremely strong CC-OC coupling [12, 13], which is very difficult to be generated in the realistic systems. Therefore, the Feshbach resonances in realistic ultracold gases with large CC-OC threshold gap, e.g., the MFR of ultracold alkali atoms, are usually induced by the coupling between the OC and one or several isolated bound states of the CC.

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Appendix A: Feshbach Resonance Induced by the Scattering States of the CC

In this appendix we show that the Feshbach resonance induced by the coupling between the OC and the scattering states of the CC can be understood as a shape resonance of the effective interaction in the OC. For convenience, here we also consider the OFR system discussed in our main text. Nevertheless, our result is applicable for the general two-channel scattering problems of two atoms.

As shown in Sec. II, the Hamiltonian of our system can be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{H} &= (-\nabla_{\mathbf{r}}^2 + \delta) |c\rangle\langle c| + (-\nabla_{\mathbf{r}}^2) |o\rangle\langle o| + \hat{U} \\ &\equiv \hat{H}_0 + \hat{U},\end{aligned}\quad (\text{A1})$$

where the interaction potential \hat{U} can be written as $\hat{U} = \sum_{i,j=o,c} U_{ij}(r) |i\rangle\langle j|$, with $U_{oo}(r)$ and $U_{cc}(r)$ being the intra-channel interaction potential of the OC and

CC, respectively, and $U_{oc}(r) = U_{co}(r)^*$ being the inter-channel coupling.

In our system the scattering wave function can be expressed as

$$|\psi(\mathbf{r})\rangle = \psi^{(o)}(\mathbf{r})|o\rangle + \psi^{(c)}(\mathbf{r})|c\rangle \quad (\text{A2})$$

and satisfies the Schrödinger equation

$$\hat{H}|\psi(\mathbf{r})\rangle = E|\psi(\mathbf{r})\rangle, \quad (\text{A3})$$

with E the scattering energy. Furthermore, when $E = 0$ we have

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \psi^{(o)}(\mathbf{r}) \propto \left(1 - \frac{a_s}{r}\right), \quad (\text{A4})$$

where a_s is the scattering length of two atoms incident from the OC. Therefore, to obtain the scattering length a_s , we should first calculate the component $\psi^{(o)}(\mathbf{r})$ of the scattering wave function for the case with $E = 0$. In this case, Eq. (A3) can be re-written as

$$\begin{aligned}-\nabla_{\mathbf{r}}^2 \psi^{(c)}(\mathbf{r}) + \delta \psi^{(c)}(\mathbf{r}) + U_{cc}(r) \psi^{(c)}(\mathbf{r}) \\ + U_{co}(r) \psi^{(o)}(\mathbf{r}) &= 0; \\ -\nabla_{\mathbf{r}}^2 \psi^{(o)}(\mathbf{r}) + U_{oo}(r) \psi^{(o)}(\mathbf{r}) + U_{oc}(r) \psi^{(c)}(\mathbf{r}) &= 0.\end{aligned}\quad (\text{A5})$$

Using these two equations, we can obtain the effective interaction potential of the OC via the projection operator technique. To this end we first solve Eq. (A5) and obtain

$$\psi^{(c)}(\mathbf{r}) = \int d\mathbf{r}' g(\delta, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') U_{co}(r') \psi^{(o)}(\mathbf{r}'), \quad (\text{A6})$$

where $g(\delta, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$ is the Green's function of the CC, and is defined as

$$g(\delta, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = \frac{1}{-[\nabla_{\mathbf{r}}^2 + U_{cc}(r) + \delta]} \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'). \quad (\text{A7})$$

We assume all the bound states of the CC is far off resonant to the threshold of the OC. Thus, in the calculation of $g(\delta, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$ we can neglect the contributions from the bound states of the CC. Then we obtain

$$g(\delta, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \approx \int d\mathbf{k} \frac{\psi_{\mathbf{k}}^*(\mathbf{r}) \psi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}')}{-\delta - k^2}, \quad (\text{A8})$$

where $\psi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})$ is the scattering state of the CC with incident momentum \mathbf{k} . Substituting Eq. (A7) into Eq. (A6), we obtain the equation for $\psi^{(o)}(\mathbf{r})$:

$$-\nabla_{\mathbf{r}}^2 \psi^{(o)}(\mathbf{r}) + \mathcal{V}_{\text{eff}}(\delta) \psi^{(o)}(\mathbf{r}) = 0. \quad (\text{A9})$$

Here $\mathcal{V}_{\text{eff}}(\delta)$ is the effective interaction of the OC. It is non-diagonal in the \mathbf{r} -representation, and satisfies

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{V}_{\text{eff}}(\delta) \psi^{(o)}(\mathbf{r}) \\ = U_{oc}(r) \int d\mathbf{r}' g(\delta, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') U_{co}(r') \psi^{(o)}(\mathbf{r}') \\ + U_{oo}(r) \psi^{(o)}(\mathbf{r})\end{aligned}\quad (\text{A10})$$

with $g(\delta, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$ given by Eq. (A9).

Eq. (A10) and Eq. (A4) show that we can obtain the wave function $\psi^{(o)}(\mathbf{r})$ and the scattering length a_s of our two-channel scattering problem via solving the single-channel scattering problem with effective interaction $\mathcal{V}_{\text{eff}}(\delta)$, which changes with the CC-OC threshold gap δ . Although in $\mathcal{V}_{\text{eff}}(\delta)$ we have ignored all the con-

tributions from the bound states of the CC, it is still possible that a shape resonance for $\mathcal{V}_{\text{eff}}(\delta)$ can appear when δ is tuned to a particular value δ_0 ($\delta_0 > 0$). In this case, we would have $a_s = \infty$. It is clear that this resonance is nothing but the Feshbach resonance induced by the coupling between the OC and the scattering states of the CC.

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